**You Are In The Bible!**

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 We have 66 books in the Bible (39 Old Testament books, 27 New Testament books) to provide us with God’s guidance and establish and strengthen our faith (Rom. 10:17; Jude 3). Sadly, after 2000 years, some call the Bible “outdated,” “unrealistic,” and the like. Some folks wonder how we can make applications to our lives when using the Bible. Yet, as we study the Bible, it is clear that we can apply Scriptures to ourselves. We are in the Bible!

 What do I mean? Put simply, God in His providence, inspired men to write things that are applicable to today (II Pet. 1:20-21). Please read Galatians 3:26-29, and we will see that while yes, this book is addressed to Galatian Christians (Gal. 1:2), this book is still written for us! When one becomes a Christian (v. 26), it is due to the fact that this person has been baptized into Christ (v. 27). In becoming Christ’s, we also are “Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise” (v. 29).

 What promise is this? It is the promise God made to Abraham (Gal. 3:16)! When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a “seed of Abraham”, and therefore fulfils God’s promise to Abraham where God said Abraham’s seed would be “as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore…” (Gen. 22:17).

 Just think, every time one becomes a Christian, he continues to fulfill a promise God made so long ago. If you are a Christian (Acts 2:38, 11:26) then you are a part of this promise. You are in the Bible!

 Other passages applicable to us are found in Matthew 5:32 and 19:9. Even though some folks have said that these passages apply only to those under the Law of Moses, Jesus actually applied it to people who were going to be living under the New Covenant when He said, “whosoever”. These verses apply to every person in every society since He spoke those words. Christ’s law for marriage is for us today.

 You are in these verses if you are married or are contemplating marriage. Christ declares that we are not to divorce for any cause. The rule is that once married, we stay married until death. The only exception to this rule is in the case where a spouse has been unfaithful through sexual immorality (fornication). This command concerning marriage continues to this present day!

 Two more verses where we find ourselves is Mark 16:16 and I Peter 3:21. So long as there is one person still in sin upon this earth, the Lord’s plan of salvation is in force. It demands that we believe in Christ and be baptized so that we can be saved from our sins. If you are in sin, you are in these verses because they reveal what is necessary to be saved. If you are already saved from sin, then you are in these verses, for this is the instruction you followed in order to receive the remission of sins. Too, these are the passages you can use to show others how you were saved.

 These are just a sampling of how God’s word applies to us this day. The Bible is not out-dated. Rather, it is a relevant, vibrant book (Heb. 4:12). Its principles are just as needed and as up-to-date as the day that they were originally penned. Yes, you are in the Bible!

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